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PATENT

Atty's. Docket No. 2083.2A

655897

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of
David F. Mark et al.

Before the Examiner

SERIAL NO.:

B. Hazel

FILED :

Group Art Unit: 127

TITLE : CYSTEINE-DEPLETED MUTEINS OF
BIOLOGICALLY ACTIVE PROTEINS

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Honorable Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Upon the assignment of the serial number and filing date,
please amend the above-identified patent application as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION

On page 1, line 4, after "application" insert, -- is a
division of U.S. Serial No. 564,224, filed December 20, 1983, which in
turn --; on page 1, line 5, after "1983" insert --now abandoned, --.

IN THE CLAIMS

Cancel claims 1 to 42, inclusive and add the following
claims in lieu thereof.

43. A synthetic mutein of a biologically active IFN- β
protein wherein the cysteine residue at position 17 of human IFN- β is
deleted or replaced by another amino acid.

44. The synthetic mutein of claim 43 wherein said cysteine
residue is replaced by an amino acid selected from the group
consisting of serine, threonine, glycine, alanine, valine, leucine,
isoleucine, histidine, tyrosine, phenylalanine, tryptophan or
methionine.

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